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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/716,740	11/20/2000	Peter Worthington Hamilton	5922R2C3	8924

27752 7590 03/17/2005

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION  
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EXAMINER

CHANG, VICTOR S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1771

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action  
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

09/716,740

Applicant(s)

HAMILTON ET AL.

Examiner

Victor S Chang

Art Unit

1771

**--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

THE REPLY FILED 24 February 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires \_\_\_\_\_ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

2. ☐ The reply was filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing an appeal brief. The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

**AMENDMENTS**

3. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
(c) ☒ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: see attached NOTE. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☒ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) rejected: 1-12, 14-18, 41-52, 54-58, 66, 81 and 95-109.  
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

**AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE**

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).  
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER**

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: see attached NOTE.  
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.  
13. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**NOTE**

1. With respect to Applicants' argument "applying a discontinuous layer of resilient non-adhesive particles to the structures disclosed by the *Wilbur* reference, would provide one of two choices. The first is a sheet of non-porous material having an adhesive disposed continuously thereon and further having a plurality of deformable particles disposed thereon. Alternatively, the combination of these two references would provide a porous material having an adhesive disposed continuously thereon further having deformable particles disposed thereon. In any regard, the combination of these two references does not provide a sheet of non-porous material having disposed continuously thereon, as claimed by Applicants." (Remarks, page 9, point 7), the Examiner repeats (see Office action dated 1/6/2005) that Wilbur's invention relates to wrappers of flexible paper or other equivalent sheet material (column 1, lines 1-3). Wilbur teaches that the invention can be embodied in a label, wrapper, envelope or other article of flexible sheet material intended for other uses (page 1, column 2, lines 34-37). Fig. 7 shows that an embodiment in which a multiplicity of pin punctures 16 each of which is surrounded by an outstanding tubular burr 17, and surrounded by a coating of permanently sticky or tacky adhesive 18. The outstanding burrs 17 serve as means for normally shielding the adhesive coating against accidental contact with other objects. When end portions are overlapped and pressed together, the burrs or bosses 17 are collapsed, the ends are united by the adhesive (page 2, column 1, line 48 to column 2, line 8). It is noted that Wilbur's pin puncture results a porous wrapper sheet

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material. However, Reed's invention is directed to a sheet material which is provided with a continuous coating of tacky, pressure-sensitive, adhesive. The adhesive coating is then provided with a coating of a discontinuous layer of resilient, non-adhesive particles. The coating of particles have the ability to be deformed under a load and thus, upon application to a support surface, deform, under pressure, to such an extent as to bring the adhesive and the surface into fuller contact (Abstract). As such, in the absence of unexpected results, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Wilbur's wrapper with a known equivalent deformable outstanding means of Reed's coating of deformable particles, i.e., *substitute Wilbur's collapsible (deformable) burrs 17 with Reed's deformable resilient non-adhesive particles*, motivated by the desire to obtain a non-porous wrapper for fully wrapped (sealed) applications. The Examiner asserts that Applicants' argument to the contrary (after Wilbur's deformable outstanding means (burrs) are replaced with Reed's deformable outstanding means (particles) the sheet material remains porous) is erroneous. It should be emphasized that once the porous structural element burrs (which bears an opening) of Wilbur are replaced with the deformable particles of Reed, there is no opening (or porous) structural element in the sheet material anymore.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor S Chang whose telephone number is 571-272-1474. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel H Morris can be reached on 571-272-1478. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*VSC*

Victor S Chang  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1771

3/7/05



TERREL MORRIS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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